## **Introduced by Senators Lieu and Steinberg**

December 19, 2012

An act to amend Sections 32280, 32281, 32282, 32285, 32286, 41020, and 47605 of, to add Sections 32286.1, 32287.1, and 41338.5 to, to repeal Section 32289 of, and to repeal and add Section 32288 of, the Education Code, relating to school safety.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 49, as introduced, Lieu. School safety plans.

(1) Existing law provides that school districts and county offices of education are responsible for the overall development of a comprehensive school safety plan for each of their constituent schools. Existing law requires the schoolsite council of a school to write and develop the school safety plan relevant to the needs and resources of the particular school. Existing law requires a schoolsite council or school safety planning committee, before adopting a school safety plan, to hold a public meeting at the schoolsite, as specified. Existing law requires schools to forward copies of their school safety plans to the school district or county office of education for approval. Existing law requires school districts and county offices of education annually to notify the State Department of Education regarding schools that fail to adopt a school safety plan.

This bill would revise and recast those procedures. The bill would require specified administrators of school districts and county offices of education to provide written notification to the Superintendent of Public Instruction identifying each school within the school district or county that has not complied with the requirement to adopt, and periodically review and update, a comprehensive school safety plan. The bill would require the Superintendent to publish, on the Internet

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Web site of the State Department of Education, the name of each school reported as not complying with the requirements to adopt, and periodically review and update, a comprehensive school safety plan. By requiring school and local educational agency officers to perform additional duties, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(2) Existing law requires a county superintendent of schools to provide for an audit of all funds under his or her jurisdiction, and requires the governing board of a local educational agency to either provide for an audit of the books and accounts of the local educational agency or make arrangements with the county superintendent of schools having jurisdiction over the local educational agency to provide for that auditing. Existing law requires a county superintendent of schools to be responsible for reviewing the audit exceptions contained in an audit of a local educational agency under his or her jurisdiction related to specified topics, and determining whether the exceptions were either corrected or an acceptable plan of correction was developed. Existing law requires the county office of education to review certain audit exceptions upon submission and receipt of a final audit report. Existing law requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to be responsible for ensuring that local educational agencies have either corrected or developed plans of correction for specified audit exceptions.

This bill, commencing with the 2014–15 fiscal year, would require the auditor to include in the audit report a summary of the extent to which a local educational agency has complied with the requirement that each of its schools develop a comprehensive school safety plan.

(3) Existing law establishes a public school funding system that includes, among other elements, the provision of funding to local educational agencies through state apportionments, the proceeds of property taxes collected at the local level, and other sources.

This bill would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to withhold the next principal apportionment from a local educational agency if the Superintendent receives an audit report that finds that the local educational agency has not substantially complied with the requirement that each of its schools develop a comprehensive school safety plan, or if the Superintendent finds that a superintendent of a school district or county office of education, or an administrator in charge of a school district or county office of education without a superintendent, has committed a violation by failing to provide written notification to the Superintendent identifying each school within the district or county that has not complied with specified requirements

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relating to the development and adoption of comprehensive school safety plans for that school year. The bill would authorize the Superintendent to apportion these funds to the affected local educational agency only after determining that the noncompliance or violation has been corrected.

(4) The Charter Schools Act of 1992 allows one or more persons seeking to establish a charter school within a school district to circulate a petition to that effect. The act provides that a petition for the establishment of a charter school may be denied by the governing board of a school district upon a finding that the petition does not contain a reasonably comprehensive description of the procedures that the school will follow to ensure the health and safety of pupils and staff, including a requirement that each employee of the school furnish the school with a criminal record summary. The renewal of a charter is also governed by these criteria.

This bill, in addition, would add the development of a school safety plan, which includes specified elements, and that is annually reviewed by the school and updated as necessary, to the procedures that the school will follow to ensure the health and safety of pupils and staff that are to be described in a petition for the establishment of, or application for the renewal of a charter of, a charter school.

(5) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- SECTION 1. Section 32280 of the Education Code is amended to read:
- 3 32280. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that all California
- 4 public schools, in kindergarten, and grades 1 to 12, inclusive,
- 5 operated by school districts, in cooperation with local law
- 6 enforcement agencies, community leaders, parents, pupils, teachers,
- 7 administrators, and other persons who may be interested in the

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prevention of campus crime and violence, develop a comprehensive school safety plan that addresses the safety concerns identified through a systematic planning process. For the purposes of this section, law enforcement agencies include local police departments, county sheriffs' offices, school district police or security departments, probation departments, and district attorneys' offices. For purposes of this section, a "safety plan" means a plan to develop strategies aimed at the prevention of, and education about, potential incidents involving crime and violence on the school campus.

- (b) (1) For the purposes of this article, law enforcement agencies include local police departments, county sheriffs' offices, school district police or security departments, probation departments, the Attorney General, any district attorney, or any city attorney.
- (2) For purposes of this article, a "safety plan" means a plan to develop strategies aimed at the prevention of, and education about, potential incidents involving crime and violence on the school campus.
- (3) For purposes of Sections 32281 and 32282, "principal" includes the principal's designee and "administrator in charge" includes the designee of the administrator in charge.
- SEC. 2. Section 32281 of the Education Code is amended to read:
- 32281. (a) Each school district and county office of education is responsible for the overall development of all comprehensive school safety plans for its schools operating kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive.
- (b) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (d) with regard to a small school district, the schoolsite council established pursuant to former Section 52012, as it existed before July 1, 2005, or Section 52852 shall write and develop a comprehensive school safety plan relevant to the needs and resources of that particular school.
- (2) The schoolsite council may delegate this responsibility to a school safety planning committee made up of the following members:
- (A) The principal or the principal's designee. administrator in charge of a school without a principal.

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(B) One teacher who is a representative of the recognized certificated employee organization.

- (C) One parent whose child attends the school.
- (D) One classified employee who is a representative of the recognized classified employee organization.
  - (E) Other members, if desired.

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- (3) The schoolsite council shall consult with a representative from a law enforcement agency in the writing and development of the *initial* comprehensive school safety—plan. plan, and is strongly encouraged to consult with a representative from a law enforcement agency for the plan's review every year thereafter.
- (4) In the absence of a schoolsite council, the members specified in paragraph (2) shall serve as the school safety planning committee.
- (c) Nothing in this article shall limit or take away the authority of school boards as guaranteed under this code.
- (d) (1) Subdivision (b) shall not apply to a small school district, as defined in paragraph (2), if the small school district develops a districtwide comprehensive school safety plan that is applicable to each schoolsite.
- (2) As used in this article, "small school district" means a school district that has fewer than 2,501 units of average daily attendance at the beginning of each fiscal year.
- (e) (1) When a principal principal, or his or her designee the administrator in charge of a school without a principal, verifies through local law enforcement officials that a report has been filed of the occurrence of a violent crime on the schoolsite of an elementary or secondary school at which he or she is the principal, principal or administrator in charge, the principal or the principal's designee administrator in charge may send to each pupil's parent or legal guardian and each school employee a written notice of the occurrence and general nature of the crime. If the principal or his or her designee administrator in charge chooses to send the written notice, the Legislature encourages the notice be sent no later than the end of business on the second regular work day workday after the verification. If, at the time of verification, local law enforcement officials determine that notification of the violent crime would hinder an ongoing investigation, the notification authorized by this subdivision shall be made within a reasonable period of time, to be determined by the local law enforcement agency and the school

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district. For purposes of this section, an act that is considered a 2 "violent crime" shall meet the definition means a Part 1 violent 3 crime as defined in paragraph (2) of subdivision (i) of Section 4 67381 and be is an act for which a pupil could or would be expelled 5 pursuant to Section 48915.

- (2) Nothing in this subdivision shall create any liability in a school district or its employees for complying with paragraph (1).
- (f) (1) Notwithstanding subdivision (b), a school district or county office of education may, in consultation with law enforcement officials, elect to not have its schoolsite council develop and write those portions of its comprehensive school safety plan that include tactical responses to criminal incidents that may result in death or serious bodily injury at the schoolsite. The portions of a school safety plan that include tactical responses to criminal incidents may be developed by administrators of the school district or county office of education in consultation with law enforcement officials and with a representative of an exclusive bargaining unit of employees of that school district or county office of education, if he or she chooses to participate. The school district or county office of education may elect not to disclose those portions of the comprehensive school safety plan that include tactical responses to criminal incidents.
- (2) As used in this article, "tactical responses to criminal incidents" means steps taken to safeguard pupils and staff, to secure the affected school premises, and to apprehend the criminal perpetrator or perpetrators.
- (3) Nothing in this subdivision precludes the governing board of a school district or county office of education from conferring in a closed session with law enforcement officials pursuant to Section 54957 of the Government Code to approve a tactical response plan developed in consultation with those officials pursuant to this subdivision. Any vote to approve the tactical response plan shall be announced in open session following the closed session.
- (4) Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to reduce or eliminate the requirements of Section 32282.
- 37 SEC. 3. Section 32282 of the Education Code is amended to 38 read:
- 39 32282. (a) The comprehensive school safety plan shall include, 40 but not be limited to, both of the following:

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(1) Assessing the current status of school crime committed on school campuses and at school-related functions.

- (2) Identifying appropriate strategies and programs that will provide or maintain a high level of school safety and address the school's procedures for complying with existing laws related to school safety, which shall include the development of all of the following:
- (A) Child abuse reporting procedures consistent with Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 11164) of Chapter 2 of Title 1 of Part 4 of the Penal Code.
- (B) Disaster procedures, routine and emergency, including adaptations for pupils with disabilities in accordance with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq.). The disaster procedures shall also include, but not be limited to, both of the following:
- (i) Establishing an earthquake emergency procedure system in every public school building having an occupant capacity of 50 or more pupils or more than one classroom. A district or county office may work with the California Emergency Management Agency and the Seismic Safety Commission to develop and establish the earthquake emergency procedure system. The system shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:
- (I) A school building disaster plan, ready for implementation at any time, for maintaining the safety and care of pupils and staff.
- (II) A drop procedure whereby each pupil and staff member takes cover under a table or desk, dropping to his or her knees, with the head protected by the arms, and the back to the windows. A drop procedure practice shall be held at least once each school quarter in elementary schools and at least once a semester in secondary schools.
- 31 (III) Protective measures to be taken before, during, and 32 following an earthquake.
  - (IV) A program to ensure that pupils and both the certificated and classified staff are aware of, and properly trained in, the earthquake emergency procedure system.
  - (ii) Establishing a procedure to allow a public-agency, agency or nongovernmental organization, including the American Red Cross, to use school buildings, grounds, and equipment for mass care and welfare shelters during disasters or other emergencies affecting the public health and welfare. The district or county office

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shall cooperate with the public agency *or nongovernmental organization* in furnishing and maintaining the services as the district or county office may deem necessary to meet the needs of the community.

- (C) Policies pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 48915 for pupils who committed an act listed in subdivision (c) of Section 48915 and other school-designated serious acts which would lead to suspension, expulsion, or mandatory expulsion recommendations pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 48900) of Chapter 6 of Part 27 of Division 4 of Title 2.
- (D) Procedures to notify teachers of dangerous pupils pursuant to Section 49079.
- (E) A discrimination and harassment policy consistent with the prohibition against discrimination contained in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 200) of Part 1.
- (F) The provisions of any schoolwide dress code, pursuant to Section 35183, that prohibits pupils from wearing "gang-related apparel," if the school has adopted that type of a dress code. For those purposes, the comprehensive school safety plan shall define "gang-related apparel." The definition shall be limited to apparel that, if worn or displayed on a school campus, reasonably could be determined to threaten the health and safety of the school environment. Any schoolwide dress code established pursuant to this section and Section 35183 shall be enforced on the school campus and at any school-sponsored activity by the principal of the school or the person designated by the administrator in charge of a school without a principal. For the purposes of this paragraph, "gang-related apparel" shall not be considered a protected form of speech pursuant to Section 48950.
- (G) Procedures for safe ingress and egress of pupils, parents, and school employees to and from school.
- (H) A safe and orderly environment conducive to learning at the school.
- (I) The rules and procedures on school discipline adopted pursuant to Sections 35291 and 35291.5.
- (J) Procedures related to individuals with guns on school campuses and at school-related functions, including, but not limited to, training programs related to active shooters and active terrorists.

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(b) It is the intent of the Legislature that schools develop comprehensive school safety plans using existing resources, including the materials and services of the partnership, pursuant to this chapter. It is also the intent of the Legislature that schools use the handbook developed and distributed by the School/Law Enforcement Partnership Program entitled "Safe Schools: A Planning Guide for Action" in conjunction with developing their plan for school safety.

- (c) Grants to assist schools in implementing their comprehensive school safety plan shall be made available through the partnership as authorized by Section 32285.
- (d) Each schoolsite council or school safety planning committee in developing and updating a comprehensive school safety plan shall, where practical, consult, cooperate, and coordinate with other schoolsite councils or school safety planning committees.
- (e) The comprehensive school safety plan may be evaluated and amended, as needed, by the school safety planning committee, but shall be evaluated at least once a year, to ensure that the comprehensive school safety plan is properly implemented. An updated file of all safety-related plans and materials shall be readily available for inspection by the public. law enforcement and school employees.
- (f) As comprehensive school safety plans are reviewed and updated, the Legislature encourages all plans, to the extent that resources are available, to include policies and procedures aimed at the prevention of bullying.
- (g) The (1) Before adopting its initial comprehensive school safety plan, as written and updated by the schoolsite council or school safety planning committee, committee shall be submitted for approval under subdivision (a) of Section 32288. hold a public meeting at the schoolsite to hear public comment about the school safety plan.
- (2) The schoolsite council or school safety planning committee shall notify, in writing, all of the following persons and entities, if available, of the public meeting:
  - (A) A representative of the local school employee organization.
- (B) A representative of each parent organization registered at the schoolsite, including the parent teacher association and parent teacher clubs.

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1 (C) A representative of each teacher organization at the 2 schoolsite.

- (D) All persons who have requested to be notified.
- SEC. 4. Section 32285 of the Education Code is amended to read:
- 32285. (a) The governing board of a school district, on behalf of one or more schools within the district that have developed a school safety plan, may apply to the Superintendent of Public Instruction for a grant to implement school safety plans. The partnership—shall may award grants for school safety plans that include, but are not limited to, the following criteria:
- (1) Assessment of the recent incidence of crime committed on the school campus.
- (2) Identification of appropriate strategies and programs that will provide or maintain a high level of school safety.
- (3) Development of an action plan, in conjunction with local law enforcement agencies, for implementing appropriate safety strategies and programs, and determining the fiscal impact of executing the strategies and programs. The action plan shall identify available resources which will provide for implementation of the plan.
- (b) The Superintendent-of Public Instruction shall award grants pursuant to this section to school districts for the implementation of individual school safety plans in an amount not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each school. No grant shall be made unless the school district makes available, for purposes of implementing the school safety plans, an amount of funds equal to the amount of the grant. Grants should be awarded through a competitive process, based upon criteria including, but not limited to, the merit of the proposal and the need for imposing school safety, based on school crime rates.
- (c) Any school receiving a grant under this section shall submit to the Superintendent of Public Instruction verified copies of its schoolsite crime report annually for three consecutive years following the receipt of the grant to study the impact of the implementation of the school safety plan on the incidence of crime on the campus of the school.
- SEC. 5. Section 32286 of the Education Code is amended to read:

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32286. (a) Each school shall adopt its comprehensive school safety plan—by for the upcoming school year no later than the preceding March 1, 2000, and shall review and update its plan by March—1, every 1 of each year thereafter. A new school campus that begins offering classes to pupils after March 1, 2001, shall adopt a comprehensive school safety plan within one year of initiating operation, and shall review and update its plan by March 1, every year thereafter.

(b) The principal or administrator in charge of a school without a principal shall forward the school's comprehensive school safety plan for the upcoming school year to the superintendent of the school district or county office of education, or to the administrator in charge where there is no superintendent, no later than March 31 of each year. The school district or county office of education either may approve the plan or may determine that the plan does not comply with this section and return it to the school for amendment. The principal or administrator in charge shall return an amended plan within 60 days of the date each rejected plan is returned for amendment.

## (b) Commencing in July 2000, and every July thereafter, each school shall

- (c) No later than July 31 of each year, the principal or administrator in charge of a school without a principal shall accurately report on the status of its school the school's safety plan for the upcoming school year, including a description of its key elements in the annual school accountability report card prepared pursuant to Sections 33126 and 35256. The report shall include, but is not limited to, whether or not a school safety plan was adopted for the upcoming year, the date the school safety plan was adopted, the date the adopted school safety plan was forwarded to the school district or county office pursuant to subdivision (b), and a description of the safety plan's elements as set forth in Section 32282.
- (d) Each school principal or administrator in charge of a school without a principal shall provide written or electronic notice to each teacher and classified employee that the adopted school safety plan is readily available for inspection.
- SEC. 6. Section 32286.1 is added to the Education Code, to read:

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32286.1. No later than October 15 of each year, each superintendent of a school district or county office of education, 2 3 or each administrator in charge of a district or county office without 4 a superintendent, shall provide written notification to the 5 Superintendent identifying each school within the school district or county that has not complied with Section 32281 or subdivision 6 (b) of Section 32286 for that school year.

- SEC. 7. Section 32287.1 is added to the Education Code, to read:
- 32287.1. (a) No later than December 31 of each year, the Superintendent shall publish on the department's Internet Web site the name of each school reported pursuant to Section 32286.1.
- (b) No later than 60 days after a notification pursuant to Section 32287, the Superintendent shall publish on the department's Internet Web site the name of every school district and county office so notified and the date of notification.
- SEC. 8. Section 32288 of the Education Code is repealed.
- 32288. (a) In order to ensure compliance with this article, each school shall forward its comprehensive school safety plan to the school district or county office of education for approval.
- (b) (1) Before adopting its comprehensive school safety plan, the schoolsite council or school safety planning committee shall hold a public meeting at the schoolsite in order to allow members of the public the opportunity to express an opinion about the school safety plan.
- (2) The schoolsite council or school safety planning committee shall notify, in writing, the following persons and entities, if available, of the public meeting:
  - (A) The local mayor.
  - (B) A representative of the local school employee organization.
- (C) A representative of each parent organization at the schoolsite, including the parent teacher association and parent teacher clubs.
- (D) A representative of each teacher organization at the schoolsite.
  - (E) A representative of the student body government.
- 37 (F) All persons who have indicated they want to be notified.
- (3) The schoolsite council or school safety planning committee 38 39 is encouraged to notify, in writing, the following persons and entities, if available, of the public meeting: 40

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- 1 (A) A representative of the local churches.
- 2 (B) Local civic leaders.

- (C) Local business organizations.
  - (e) In order to ensure compliance with this article, each school district or county office of education shall annually notify the State Department of Education by October 15 of any schools that have not complied with Section 32281.
  - SEC. 9. Section 32288 is added to the Education Code, to read: 32288. (a) Each principal or administrator in charge of a school without a principal shall keep and maintain a copy of the most recent comprehensive school safety plan for that school.
  - (b) Each superintendent of a school district or county office of education, or each administrator in charge of a district or county office without a superintendent, shall keep and maintain a copy of the most recent comprehensive school safety plan filed pursuant to Section 32286 and a copy of every notification made pursuant to Section 32286.1.
  - (c) All books, documents, records, and other papers kept and maintained pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (b) shall be open for inspection and copying on business days, excluding legal holidays, during the hours of 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., inclusive, within 48 hours of a written, verbal, or electronic request by a law enforcement agency described in Section 32280.
  - SEC. 10. Section 32289 of the Education Code, as added by Section 1 of Chapter 272 of the Statutes of 2004, is repealed.
  - 32289. A complaint of noncompliance with the school safety planning requirements of Title IV of the federal No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, 20 U.S.C. Sec. 7114(d)(7), may be filed with the department under the Uniform Complaint Procedures as set forth in Chapter 5.1 (commencing with Section 4600) of Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.
  - SEC. 11. Section 41020 of the Education Code is amended to read:
  - 41020. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature to encourage sound fiscal management practices among local educational agencies for the most efficient and effective use of public funds for the education of children in California by strengthening fiscal accountability at the district, county, and state levels.
  - (b) (1) Not later than the first day of May *I* of each fiscal year, each county superintendent of schools shall provide for an audit

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of all funds under his or her jurisdiction and control, and the governing board of each local educational agency shall either provide for an audit of the books and accounts of the local educational agency, including an audit of income and expenditures by source of funds, or make arrangements with the county superintendent of schools having jurisdiction over the local educational agency to provide for that auditing.

- (2) A contract to perform the audit of a local educational agency that has a disapproved budget or has received a negative certification on any budget or interim financial report during the current fiscal year or either of the two preceding fiscal years, or for which the county superintendent of schools has otherwise determined that a lack of going concern exists, is not valid unless approved by the responsible county superintendent of schools and the governing board.
- (3) If the governing board of a local educational agency has not provided for an audit of the books and accounts of the local educational agency by April 1, the county superintendent of schools having jurisdiction over the local educational agency shall provide for the audit of each local educational agency.
- (4) An audit conducted pursuant to this section shall comply fully with the Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.
- (5) For purposes of this section, "local educational agency" does not include community colleges.
- (c) Each audit conducted in accordance with this section shall include all funds of the local educational agency, including the student body and cafeteria funds and accounts and any other funds under the control or jurisdiction of the local educational agency. Each audit shall also include an audit of pupil attendance procedures.
- (d) All audit reports for each fiscal year shall be developed and reported using a format established by the Controller after consultation with the Superintendent and the Director of Finance.
- (e) (1) The cost of the audits provided for by the county superintendent of schools shall be paid from the county school service—fund fund, and the county superintendent of schools shall transfer the pro rata share of the cost chargeable to each district from district funds.

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(2) The cost of the audit provided for by a governing board shall be paid from local educational agency funds. The audit of the funds under the jurisdiction and control of the county superintendent of schools shall be paid from the county school service fund.

- (f) (1) The audits shall be made by a certified public accountant or a public accountant, licensed by the California Board of Accountancy, and selected by the local educational agency, as applicable, from a directory of certified public accountants and public accountants deemed by the Controller as qualified to conduct audits of local educational agencies, which shall be published by the Controller not later than December 31 of each year.
- (2) Commencing with the 2003–04 fiscal year and except as provided in subdivision (d) of Section 41320.1, it is unlawful for a public accounting firm to provide audit services to a local educational agency if the lead audit partner, or coordinating audit partner, having primary responsibility for the audit, or the audit partner responsible for reviewing the audit, has performed audit services for that local educational agency in each of the six previous fiscal years. The Education Audits Appeal Panel may waive this requirement if the panel finds that no otherwise eligible auditor is available to perform the audit.
- (3) It is the intent of the Legislature that, notwithstanding paragraph (2), the rotation within public accounting firms conform to provisions of the federal Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (P.L. 107-204; 15 U.S.C. Sec. 7201 et seq.), and upon release of the report required by the act of the Comptroller General of the United States addressing the mandatory rotation of registered public accounting firms, the Legislature intends to reconsider the provisions of paragraph (2). In determining which certified public accountants and public accountants shall be included in the directory, the Controller shall use the following criteria:
- (A) The certified public accountants or public accountants shall be in good standing as certified by the Board of Accountancy.
- (B) The certified public accountants or public accountants, as a result of a quality control review conducted by the Controller pursuant to Section 14504.2, shall not have been found to have conducted an audit in a manner constituting noncompliance with subdivision (a) of Section 14503.
  - (g) (1) The auditor's report shall include each of the following:

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(A) A statement that the audit was conducted pursuant to standards and procedures developed in accordance with Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 14500) of Part 9 of Division 1 of Title 1.

- (B) A summary of audit exceptions and management improvement recommendations.
- (C) Each audit of a local educational agency shall include an *An* evaluation by the auditor on whether there is substantial doubt about the ability of the local educational agency to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time. This evaluation shall be based on the Statement of Auditing Standards (SAS) No. 59, as issued by the AICPA regarding disclosure requirements relating to the ability of the entity to continue as a going concern.
- (D) Commencing with the 2014–15 fiscal year, a summary of the extent to which the local educational agency has complied with the requirement that each of its schools develop a comprehensive school safety plan pursuant to Section 32281.
- (2) To the extent possible, a description of correction or plan of correction shall be incorporated in the audit report, describing the specific actions that are planned to be taken, or that have been taken, to correct the problem identified by the auditor. The descriptions of specific actions to be taken or that have been taken shall not solely consist of general comments such as "will implement," "accepted the recommendation," or "will discuss at a later date."
- (h) Not later than December 15, a report of each local educational agency audit for the preceding fiscal year shall be filed with the county superintendent of schools of the county in which the local educational agency is located, the department, and the Controller. The Superintendent shall make any adjustments necessary in future apportionments of all state funds, to correct any audit exceptions revealed by those audit reports.
- (i) (1) Commencing with the 2002–03 audit of local educational agencies pursuant to this section and subdivision (d) of Section 41320.1, each county superintendent of schools shall be responsible for reviewing the audit exceptions contained in an audit of a local educational agency under his or her jurisdiction related to attendance, inventory of equipment, internal control, and any miscellaneous items, and determining whether the exceptions have

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been either corrected or an acceptable plan of correction has been developed.

- (2) Commencing with the 2004–05 audit of local educational agencies pursuant to this section and subdivision (d) of Section 41320.1, each county superintendent of schools shall include in the review of audit exceptions performed pursuant to this subdivision those audit exceptions related to use of instructional materials program funds, teacher misassignments pursuant to Section 44258.9, *and* information reported on the school accountability report card required pursuant to Section 33126, and shall determine whether the exceptions are either corrected or an acceptable plan of correction has been developed.
- (j) Upon submission of the final audit report to the governing board of each local educational agency and subsequent receipt of the audit by the county superintendent of schools having jurisdiction over the local educational agency, the county office of education shall do all of the following:
- (1) Review audit exceptions related to attendance, inventory of equipment, internal control, and other miscellaneous exceptions. Attendance exceptions or issues shall include, but not be limited to, those related to revenue limits, adult education, and independent study.
- (2) If a description of the correction or plan of correction has not been provided as part of the audit required by this section, then the county superintendent of schools shall notify the local educational agency and request the governing board of the local educational agency to provide to the county superintendent of schools a description of the corrections or plan of correction by March 15.
- (3) Review the description of correction or plan of correction and determine its adequacy. If the description of the correction or plan of correction is not adequate, the county superintendent of schools shall require the local educational agency to resubmit that portion of its response that is inadequate.
- (k) Each county superintendent of schools shall certify to the Superintendent and the Controller, not later than May 15, that his or her staff has reviewed all audits of local educational agencies under his or her jurisdiction for the prior fiscal year, that all exceptions that the county superintendent was required to review were reviewed, and that all of those exceptions, except as otherwise

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noted in the certification, have been corrected by the local educational agency or that an acceptable plan of correction has been submitted to the county superintendent of schools. In addition, the county superintendent shall identify, by local educational agency, any attendance-related audit exception or exceptions involving state funds, and require the local educational agency to which the audit exceptions were directed to submit appropriate reporting forms for processing by the Superintendent.

- (1) In the audit of a local educational agency for a subsequent year, the auditor shall review the correction or plan or plans of correction submitted by the local educational agency to determine if the exceptions have been resolved. If not, the auditor shall immediately notify the appropriate county office of education and the department and restate the exception in the audit report. After receiving that notification, the department shall either consult with the local educational agency to resolve the exception or require the county superintendent of schools to follow up with the local educational agency.
- (m) (1) The Superintendent shall be responsible for ensuring that local educational agencies have either corrected or developed plans of correction for any one or more of the following:
- (A) All federal and state compliance audit exceptions identified in the audit.
- (B) Any exceptions that the county superintendent certifies as of May 15 have not been corrected.
- (C) Any repeat audit exceptions that are not assigned to a county superintendent to correct.
- (2) In addition, the Superintendent shall be responsible for ensuring that county superintendents of schools and each county board of education that serves as the governing board of a local educational agency either correct all audit exceptions identified in the audits of county superintendents of schools and of the local educational agencies for which the county boards of education serve as the governing boards or develop acceptable plans of correction for those exceptions.
- (3) The Superintendent shall report annually to the Controller on his or her actions to ensure that school districts, county superintendents of schools, and each county board of education that serves as the governing board of a school district have either

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corrected or developed plans of correction for any of the exceptions noted pursuant to paragraph (1).

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- (n) To facilitate correction of the exceptions identified by the audits issued pursuant to this section, commencing with 2002–03 audits pursuant to this section, the Controller shall require auditors to categorize audit exceptions in each audit report in a manner that will make it clear to both the county superintendent of schools and the Superintendent which exceptions they are responsible for ensuring the correction of by a local educational agency. In addition, the Controller annually shall select a sampling of county superintendents of schools and schools, perform a followup of the audit resolution process of those county superintendents of schools schools, and report the results of that followup to the Superintendent and the county superintendents of schools that were reviewed.
- (o) County superintendents of schools shall adjust subsequent local property tax requirements to correct audit exceptions relating to local educational agency tax rates and tax revenues.
- (p) If a governing board or county superintendent of schools fails or is unable to make satisfactory arrangements for the audit pursuant to this section, the Controller shall make arrangements for the audit, and the cost of the audit shall be paid from local educational agency funds or the county school service fund, as the case may be.
- (q) Audits of regional occupational centers and programs are subject to the provisions of this section.
- (r) This section does not authorize examination of, or reports on, the curriculum used or provided for in any local educational agency.
- (s) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a nonauditing, management, or other consulting service to be provided to a local educational agency by a certified public accounting firm while the certified public accounting firm is performing an audit of the agency pursuant to this section-must shall be in accord with Government Accounting Standards, Amendment No. 3, as published by the United States General Accounting Office.
- SEC. 12. Section 41338.5 is added to the Education Code, to 38 read:

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41338.5. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, the Superintendent shall withhold the next principal apportionment from a local educational agency if either of the following occurs:

- (1) The Superintendent receives an audit report, pursuant to Section 41020, that finds that the local educational agency has not substantially complied with the requirement that each of its schools develop a comprehensive school safety plan pursuant to Section 32281.
- (2) The Superintendent finds that a superintendent of a school district or county office of education, or an administrator in charge of a district or county office without a superintendent, has violated Section 32286.1 by failing to provide written notification to the Superintendent identifying each school within the district or county that has not complied with Section 32281 or subdivision (b) of Section 32286 for that school year.
- (b) The Superintendent shall apportion any funds withheld pursuant to this section to the affected local educational agency only after the Superintendent determines that the noncompliance or violation that caused the funds to be withheld has been corrected.
- SEC. 13. Section 47605 of the Education Code, as amended by Section 1 of Chapter 576 of the Statutes of 2012, is amended to read:
- 47605. (a) (1) Except as set forth in paragraph (2), a petition for the establishment of a charter school within a school district may be circulated by one or more persons seeking to establish the charter school. A petition for the establishment of a charter school shall identify a single charter school that will operate within the geographic boundaries of that school district. A charter school may propose to operate at multiple sites within the school district, as long as each location is identified in the charter school petition. The petition may be submitted to the governing board of the school district for review after either of the following conditions is met:
- (A) The petition is signed by a number of parents or legal guardians of pupils that is equivalent to at least one-half of the number of pupils that the charter school estimates will enroll in the school for its first year of operation.
- (B) The petition is signed by a number of teachers that is equivalent to at least one-half of the number of teachers that the charter school estimates will be employed at the school during its first year of operation.

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(2) A petition that proposes to convert an existing public school to a charter school that would not be eligible for a loan pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 41365 may be circulated by one or more persons seeking to establish the charter school. The petition may be submitted to the governing board of the school district for review after the petition is signed by not less than 50 percent of the permanent status teachers currently employed at the public school to be converted.

- (3) A petition shall include a prominent statement that a signature on the petition means that the parent or legal guardian is meaningfully interested in having his or her child or ward attend the charter school, or in the case of a teacher's signature, means that the teacher is meaningfully interested in teaching at the charter school. The proposed charter shall be attached to the petition.
- (4) After receiving approval of its petition, a charter school that proposes to establish operations at one or more additional sites shall request a material revision to its charter and shall notify the authority that granted its charter of those additional locations. The authority that granted its charter shall consider whether to approve those additional locations at an open, public meeting. If the additional locations are approved, they shall be a material revision to the charter school's charter.
- (5) A charter school that is unable to locate within the jurisdiction of the chartering school district may establish one site outside the boundaries of the school district, but within the county in which that school district is located, if the school district within the jurisdiction of which the charter school proposes to operate is notified in advance of the charter petition approval, the county superintendent of schools and the Superintendent are notified of the location of the charter school before it commences operations, and either of the following circumstances exists:
- (A) The school has attempted to locate a single site or facility to house the entire program, but a site or facility is unavailable in the area in which the school chooses to locate.
- (B) The site is needed for temporary use during a construction or expansion project.
- (6) Commencing January 1, 2003, a petition to establish a charter school may not be approved to serve pupils in a grade level that is not served by the school district of the governing board

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considering the petition, unless the petition proposes to serve pupils in all of the grade levels served by that school district.

- 3 (b) No later than 30 days after receiving a petition, in accordance 4 with subdivision (a), the governing board of the school district 5 shall hold a public hearing on the provisions of the charter, at 6 which time the governing board of the school district shall consider 7 the level of support for the petition by teachers employed by the 8 district, other employees of the district, and parents. Following review of the petition and the public hearing, the governing board 10 of the school district shall either grant or deny the charter within 11 60 days of receipt of the petition, provided, however, that the date 12 may be extended by an additional 30 days if both parties agree to 13 the extension. In reviewing petitions for the establishment of 14 charter schools pursuant to this section, the chartering authority 15 shall be guided by the intent of the Legislature that charter schools 16 are and should become an integral part of the California educational 17 system and that the establishment of charter schools should be 18 encouraged. The governing board of the school district shall grant 19 a charter for the operation of a school under this part if it is satisfied 20 that granting the charter is consistent with sound educational 21 practice. The governing board of the school district shall not deny 22 a petition for the establishment of a charter school unless it makes 23 written factual findings, specific to the particular petition, setting 24 forth specific facts to support one or more of the following 25 findings:
  - (1) The charter school presents an unsound educational program for the pupils to be enrolled in the charter school.
  - (2) The petitioners are demonstrably unlikely to successfully implement the program set forth in the petition.
  - (3) The petition does not contain the number of signatures required by subdivision (a).
  - (4) The petition does not contain an affirmation of each of the conditions described in subdivision (d).
  - (5) The petition does not contain reasonably comprehensive descriptions of all of the following:
  - (A) (i) A description of the educational program of the school, designed, among other things, to identify those whom the school is attempting to educate, what it means to be an "educated person" in the 21st century, and how learning best occurs. The goals

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identified in that program shall include the objective of enabling pupils to become self-motivated, competent, and lifelong learners.

- (ii) If the proposed school will serve high school pupils, a description of the manner in which the charter school will inform parents about the transferability of courses to other public high schools and the eligibility of courses to meet college entrance requirements. Courses offered by the charter school that are accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges may be considered transferable and courses approved by the University of California or the California State University as creditable under the "A" to "G" admissions criteria may be considered to meet college entrance requirements.
- (B) The measurable pupil outcomes identified for use by the charter school. "Pupil outcomes," for purposes of this part, means the extent to which all pupils of the school demonstrate that they have attained the skills, knowledge, and attitudes specified as goals in the school's educational program. Pupil outcomes shall include outcomes that address increases in pupil academic achievement both schoolwide and for all groups of pupils served by the charter school, as that term is defined in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 47607.
- (C) The method by which pupil progress in meeting those pupil outcomes is to be measured.
- (D) The governance structure of the school, including, but not limited to, the process to be followed by the school to ensure parental involvement.
- (E) The qualifications to be met by individuals to be employed by the school.
- (F) The procedures that the school will follow to ensure the health and safety of pupils and staff. These procedures shall include the both of the following:
- (i) A requirement that each employee of the school furnish the school with a criminal record summary as described in Section 44237.
- (ii) The development of a school safety plan, which includes the elements outlined in subparagraphs (A) to (J), inclusive, of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 32282, that is annually reviewed by the school and updated as necessary.
- (G) The means by which the school will achieve a racial and ethnic balance among its pupils that is reflective of the general

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population residing within the territorial jurisdiction of the school district to which the charter petition is submitted.

- (H) Admission requirements, if applicable.
- (I) The manner in which annual, independent financial audits shall be conducted, which shall employ generally accepted accounting principles, and the manner in which audit exceptions and deficiencies shall be resolved to the satisfaction of the chartering authority.
- (J) The procedures by which pupils can be suspended or expelled.
- (K) The manner by which staff members of the charter schools will be covered by the State Teachers' Retirement System, the Public Employees' Retirement System, or federal social security.
- (L) The public school attendance alternatives for pupils residing within the school district who choose not to attend charter schools.
- (M) A description of the rights of any employee of the school district upon leaving the employment of the school district to work in a charter school, and of any rights of return to the school district after employment at a charter school.
- (N) The procedures to be followed by the charter school and the entity granting the charter to resolve disputes relating to provisions of the charter.
- (O) A declaration whether or not the charter school shall be deemed the exclusive public school employer of the employees of the charter school for purposes of Chapter 10.7 (commencing with Section 3540) of Division 4 of Title 1 of the Government Code.
- (P) A description of the procedures to be used if the charter school closes. The procedures shall ensure a final audit of the school to determine the disposition of all assets and liabilities of the charter school, including plans for disposing of any net assets and for the maintenance and transfer of pupil records.
- (c) (1) Charter schools shall meet all statewide standards and conduct the pupil assessments required pursuant to Sections 60605 and 60851 and any other statewide standards authorized in statute or pupil assessments applicable to pupils in noncharter public schools.
- (2) Charter schools shall, on a regular basis, consult with their parents, legal guardians, and teachers regarding the school's educational programs.

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(d) (1) In addition to any other requirement imposed under this part, a charter school shall be nonsectarian in its programs, admission policies, employment practices, and all other operations, shall not charge tuition, and shall not discriminate against any pupil on the basis of the characteristics listed in Section 220. Except as provided in paragraph (2), admission to a charter school shall not be determined according to the place of residence of the pupil, or of his or her parent or legal guardian, within this state, except that an existing public school converting partially or entirely to a charter school under this part shall adopt and maintain a policy giving admission preference to pupils who reside within the former attendance area of that public school.

- (2) (A) A charter school shall admit all pupils who wish to attend the school.
- (B) If the number of pupils who wish to attend the charter school exceeds the school's capacity, attendance, except for existing pupils of the charter school, shall be determined by a public random drawing. Preference shall be extended to pupils currently attending the charter school and pupils who reside in the district except as provided for in Section 47614.5. Other preferences may be permitted by the chartering authority on an individual school basis and only if consistent with the law.
- (C) In the event of a drawing, the chartering authority shall make reasonable efforts to accommodate the growth of the charter school and in no event shall take any action to impede the charter school from expanding enrollment to meet pupil demand.
- (3) If a pupil is expelled or leaves the charter school without graduating or completing the school year for any reason, the charter school shall notify the superintendent of the school district of the pupil's last known address within 30 days, and shall, upon request, provide that school district with a copy of the cumulative record of the pupil, including a transcript of grades or report card, and health information. This paragraph applies only to pupils subject to compulsory full-time education pursuant to Section 48200.
- (e) The governing board of a school district shall not require any employee of the school district to be employed in a charter school.
- (f) The governing board of a school district shall not require any pupil enrolled in the school district to attend a charter school.

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(g) The governing board of a school district shall require that the petitioner or petitioners provide information regarding the proposed operation and potential effects of the school, including, but not limited to, the facilities to be used by the school, the manner in which administrative services of the school are to be provided, and potential civil liability effects, if any, upon the school and upon the school district. The description of the facilities to be used by the charter school shall specify where the school intends to locate. The petitioner or petitioners shall also be required to provide financial statements that include a proposed first-year operational budget, including startup costs, and cashflow and financial projections for the first three years of operation.

- (h) In reviewing petitions for the establishment of charter schools within the school district, the governing board of the school district shall give preference to petitions that demonstrate the capability to provide comprehensive learning experiences to pupils identified by the petitioner or petitioners as academically low achieving pursuant to the standards established by the department under Section 54032, as it read before July 19, 2006.
- (i) Upon the approval of the petition by the governing board of the school district, the petitioner or petitioners shall provide written notice of that approval, including a copy of the petition, to the applicable county superintendent of schools, the department, and the state board.
- (i) (1) If the governing board of a school district denies a petition, the petitioner may elect to submit the petition for the establishment of a charter school to the county board of education. The county board of education shall review the petition pursuant to subdivision (b). If the petitioner elects to submit a petition for establishment of a charter school to the county board of education and the county board of education denies the petition, the petitioner may file a petition for establishment of a charter school with the state board, and the state board may approve the petition, in accordance with subdivision (b). A charter school that receives approval of its petition from a county board of education or from the state board on appeal shall be subject to the same requirements concerning geographic location to which it would otherwise be subject if it received approval from the entity to which it originally submitted its petition. A charter petition that is submitted to either a county board of education or to the state board shall meet all

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otherwise applicable petition requirements, including the identification of the proposed site or sites where the charter school will operate.

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- (2) In assuming its role as a chartering agency, the state board shall develop criteria to be used for the review and approval of charter school petitions presented to the state board. The criteria shall address all elements required for charter approval, as identified in subdivision (b) and shall define "reasonably comprehensive" as used in paragraph (5) of subdivision (b) in a way that is consistent with the intent of this part. Upon satisfactory completion of the criteria, the state board shall adopt the criteria on or before June 30, 2001.
- (3) A charter school for which a charter is granted by either the county board of education or the state board based on an appeal pursuant to this subdivision shall qualify fully as a charter school for all funding and other purposes of this part.
- (4) If either the county board of education or the state board fails to act on a petition within 120 days of receipt, the decision of the governing board of the school district to deny a petition shall, thereafter, be subject to judicial review.
- (5) The state board shall adopt regulations implementing this subdivision.
- (6) Upon the approval of the petition by the county board of education, the petitioner or petitioners shall provide written notice of that approval, including a copy of the petition to the department and the state board.
- (k) (1) The state board may, by mutual agreement, designate its supervisorial and oversight responsibilities for a charter school approved by the state board to any local educational agency in the county in which the charter school is located or to the governing board of the school district that first denied the petition.
- (2) The designated local educational agency shall have all monitoring and supervising authority of a chartering agency, including, but not limited to, powers and duties set forth in Section 47607, except the power of revocation, which shall remain with the state board.
- (3) A charter school that is granted its charter through an appeal to the state board and elects to seek renewal of its charter shall, before expiration of the charter, submit its petition for renewal to the governing board of the school district that initially denied the

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charter. If the governing board of the school district denies the school's petition for renewal, the school may petition the state board for renewal of its charter.

- (*l*) Teachers in charter schools shall hold a Commission on Teacher Credentialing certificate, permit, or other document equivalent to that which a teacher in other public schools would be required to hold. These documents shall be maintained on file at the charter school and are subject to periodic inspection by the chartering authority. It is the intent of the Legislature that charter schools be given flexibility with regard to noncore, noncollege preparatory courses.
- (m) A charter school shall transmit a copy of its annual, independent financial audit report for the preceding fiscal year, as described in subparagraph (I) of paragraph (5) of subdivision (b), to its chartering entity, the Controller, the county superintendent of schools of the county in which the charter school is sited, unless the county board of education of the county in which the charter school is sited is the chartering entity, and the department by December 15 of each year. This subdivision does not apply if the audit of the charter school is encompassed in the audit of the chartering entity pursuant to Section 41020.
- SEC. 14. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.